

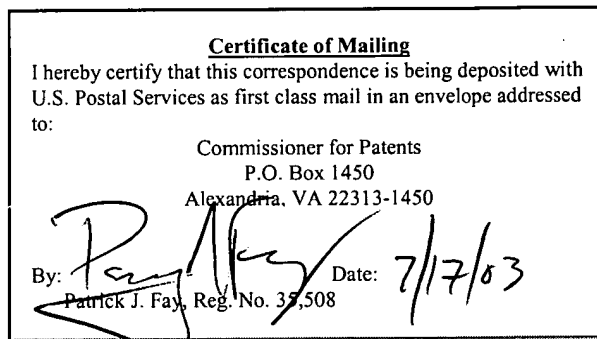
[10123/02801]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant : Christopher T. DAVEY
Serial No. : 09/556,102
Filed : April 21, 2000
For : VALVE INTRODUCER SHEATH AND RELATED METHODS
Group Art Unit : 3763
Examiner : M. DeSanto

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

S I R:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment for filing in the above-identified application.

No fee is believed to be required. However, if any fees are required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1492 of Fay Kaplun & Marcin, LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 17, 2003

By: [Signature]
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[10123/02801]

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AMENDMENT

S I R:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 23, 2003, please consider the following remarks.

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable.

Claims 12 - 23, 25 - 34 and 36 - 45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious over Walker (U.S. Patent No. 5,755,693) in view of Deem (U.S. Patent No. 5,104,389). The Examiner stated, in support of the rejection, that Walker shows a device as claimed except for the element that none of the slits

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